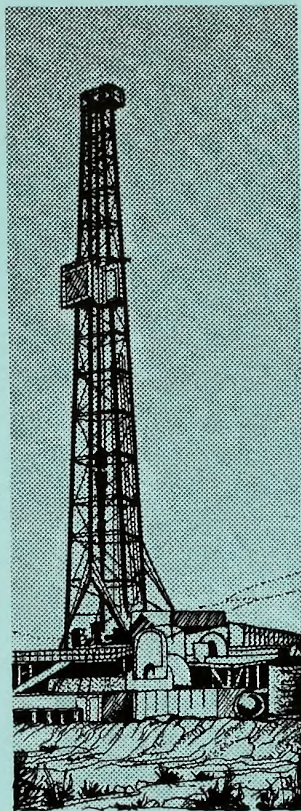


BLM IN WYOMING



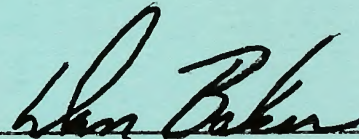
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The purpose of this publication is to present current factual information on the activities of the Bureau of Land Management in Wyoming. We are hopeful that the information presented here will be useful to those interested in our programs on the national resource lands.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dan Baker", is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel P. Baker
State Director

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<i>INTRODUCTION</i>	1
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	8
THE RESOURCES	12
Lands	12
Minerals	14
Range Management	19
Forestry	23
Soil and Water Resource Management	25
Recreation	25
Wildlife	29
TECHNICAL SERVICES	31

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Introduction

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is an agency within the Department of the Interior, which is responsible for the management of the national resource lands. These lands are managed under a variety of Congressional mandates permitting their utilization to the maximum extent consistent with their best use and preservation for future generations. Management ranges from intensive minerals development to withdrawals of lands for wilderness areas.

The BLM has primary responsibility for about 17.5-million acres or 28 percent of the state and manages another half-million acres for other agencies. It administers mineral resources reserved to the public under more than 13-million acres of privately-owned surface. The Bureau also surveys, maintains land records and issues mineral leases relating to an additional 12.5-million acres which are otherwise administered by other federal agencies. In short, the BLM has some responsibility for about two-thirds of the land in Wyoming. *Tables 1 through 3 illustrate the pattern of public-land management responsibility.*

Table 1
PUBLIC LAND ADMINISTERED
BY FEDERAL AGENCIES

Agency	Acreage	Agency as % of Fed	Agency as % of State ²
Bureau of Land Management	17,408,201 ¹	58.2	27.8
Forest Service	9,274,897	30.9	14.8
National Park Service	2,310,637	7.7	3.7
Bureau of Reclamation	865,443	2.9	1.4
Fish & Wildlife Service	44,430	.2	.1
Bureau of Indian Affairs	1,296	—	—
Department of Defense	26,196	.1	—
Other Federal Agencies	1,608	—	—
TOTAL	29,932,708		47.8³

¹Bureau of Land Management acreage was 17,408,201 acres as of June 30, 1975. The other data for 1972, however, is the most recent available for comparison.

²Ares of Wyoming is 62,664,960 acres (including Yellowstone Park), of which 455,040 acres are inland water.

³Compare with percentage administered by federal government in other states: Alaska 96.7%; California 44.8%; Colorado 36%; Idaho 63.8%; Montana 29.6%; Nevada 86.5%; Oregon 52.3%; and Utah 66%.

Table 2
LANDS ADMINISTERED BY BLM IN WYOMING
(acres)

District		Total Geographic Area Within Administrative Boundaries
Resource Area	National Res Lands ¹	
Worland	3,205,000	9,770,000
Shoshone RA	1,226,000	
Washakie RA	1,979,000	
Rawlins	5,964,000	17,719,000
Lander RA	2,121,000	
Divide RA	2,808,000	
Medicine Bow RA	1,034,000	
Rock Springs	5,893,000	14,137,000
Pinedale RA	919,000	
Kemmerer RA	1,457,000	
Green River RA	3,517,000	
Casper	2,465,000	21,039,000
Buffalo RA	942,000	
Platte River RA	1,522,000	
Total	17,527,000	62,665,000

¹Does not include approximately 500,000 acres of other federal land administered by BLM. Administration of minor BLM areas along state boundaries is exchanged with BLM offices in other states (and vice versa) for ease of accessibility.

Table 3
SELECTED STATISTICS FOR KANSAS AND NEBRASKA¹
(Fiscal Year 1975)

Type of Statistic	Kansas	Nebraska
National Resource Land (Acres)	900	7,990
Receipts (in dollars)		
Mineral Leases & Permits	\$632,557	\$106,062
Sale of Land, Timber & Materials	—	—
Sec. 15 Grazing Leases	104	1,196
Fees and Commissions	430	260
Rights of Ways	—	150
Rent of Land	—	—
TOTAL	\$633,091	\$107,668
Allocation of Receipts to State (in dollars)		
Mineral Leases and Permits	\$237,209	\$ 39,865
Sale of Land, Timber & Materials	—	—
Sec. 15 Grazing Leases	52	598
TOTAL	\$237,261	\$ 40,463
Lands		
Patents Issued (Number)	5	0
Patents Issued (Acres)	120	—
Area Classified for Recreation and Public Purposes (Acres)	—	—
Minerals		
Oil and Gas Leases Issued (Number)	19	63
(Acres)	18,405	12,201
Range (Estimated Use)		
Operators (Number)	5	47
Cattle and Horses (Number)	2,017	11,695
Sheep and Goats (Number)	—	70
Animal Unit Months Used ²	120	1,528
Area Under Lease (Acres)	640	3,689
Annual Rental (dollars)	\$ 104	\$ 1,113

¹Administered through the Casper District Office.

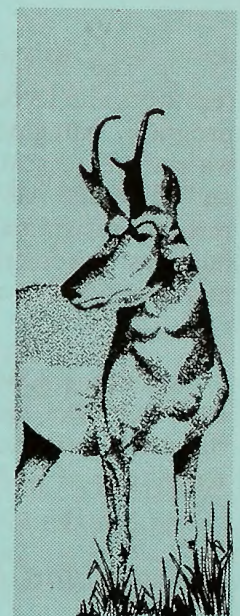
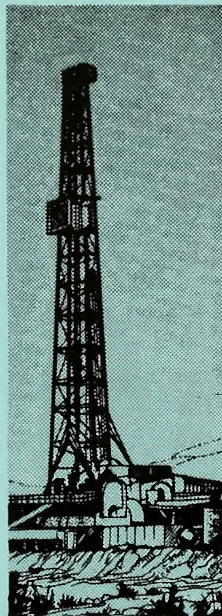
²Animal Unit Month (AUM). The forage required to sustain a mature cow or its equivalent for one month.

The BLM administers the land and its resources under what can be considered a trust responsibility. It does not itself harvest timber, drill for oil, graze livestock or otherwise use the land. Rather, it manages the resources to assure their enjoyment by the general public and to permit development by private industry through leasing at fair market value.

The national resource lands can satisfy only a portion of the total demand for a given resource. The relationship between public and private lands, therefore, is an important factor in management of our total resources. It must be remembered that the BLM controls only part of this relationship. If the Bureau initiates a conservation plan in a particular watershed for example, the cooperation of private landowners is essential to the overall effectiveness of the project.

Historically, national resource lands were used mainly for the production of commodities such as forage, wood products, or minerals. Such products and services are still produced. Today, however, demand for open space, diverse recreation opportunities, and protection of our cultural resources, have greatly increased the complexity of management responsibilities for the BLM.

A given land area may contain resource potential for a wide variety of uses and the relationship between them ranges from "complementary" to "totally incompatible." It is the responsibility of the BLM to administer and sometimes adjudicate between these uses for maximum benefit to all the people.



BLM IN WYOMING

BLM district and resource area boundaries and office locations are shown on Page 36. (Note: Where a detached resource area office is not indicated, this headquarters is located at the district office.) BLM activities in the field are administered through district offices in Worland, Rawlins, Rock Springs and Casper.

Programs

The BLM's primary responsibility is to the natural resources and its basic programs are founded accordingly. These program categories are: lands; livestock forage; timber; watershed; recreation and cultural resources; wildlife habitat; and minerals. All other BLM activities are in support of these resource programs and include construction and maintenance of facilities, cadastral survey, fire protection, land records maintenance and realty services.

Some 8,890 acres of national resource lands in Kansas and Nebraska are also administered by the Wyoming BLM State Office through its Casper District. Table 3 illustrates the magnitude of BLM activities in these states.

Receipts and Budget

During the fiscal year ending in June 1975, the BLM and therefore the public, realized more than \$102 million in receipts through the various resource programs in Wyoming. More than \$33 million of this was returned to the state. Most of the Wyoming receipts were from mineral leasing and permits. The balance came mainly from the sale of land, timber and other materials, and grazing leases and licenses. Receipts not allocated to the state go into the Federal Reclamation Fund or the U.S. Treasury. (See Tables 4, 5, Charts 1, 2 and Fig. 1.)

Table 4
BLM RECEIPTS BY SOURCE
(\$000's)

Fiscal Year	Mineral Leases & Permits	Sales of Land	Sales of Timber & Materials	Grazing Leases, Licenses & Permits	Other ¹	Grand Total
1975	\$89,501	\$132	\$25	\$1,728	\$11,529	\$102,915
1974	72,387	492	22	1,513	6,219	80,633
1973	48,701	156	24	1,310	3,184	53,375
1972	53,067	59	24	1,178	2,271	56,599
1971	58,062	333	14	1,090	1,934	61,433
1970	51,041	153	77	833	2,407	54,511
1969	47,226	134	26	799	2,418	50,603
1968	42,441	77	15	663	1,529	44,725
1967	40,481	79	18	662	1,075	42,315
1966	39,573	75	22	656	1,565	41,891
1965	40,493	97	16	628	1,031	42,265

¹Includes fees and commissions, rights-of-way, rent of land and other sources.

Chart 1
BLM RECEIPTS BY SOURCE
(100% Pie Chart)

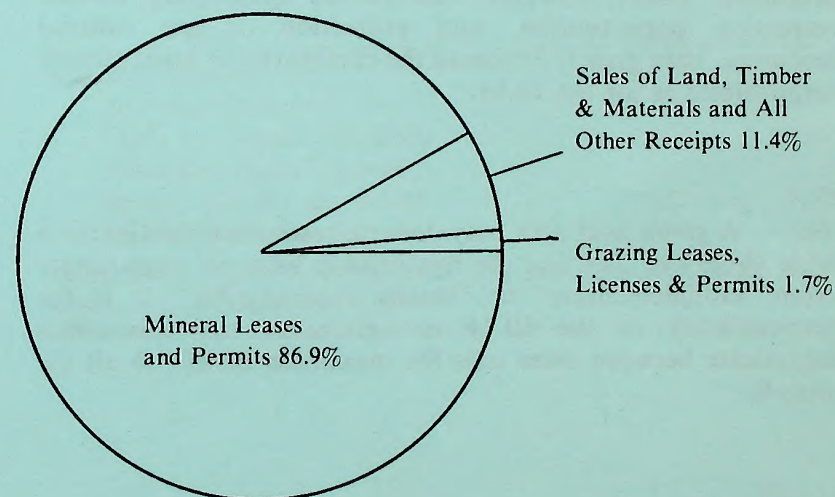
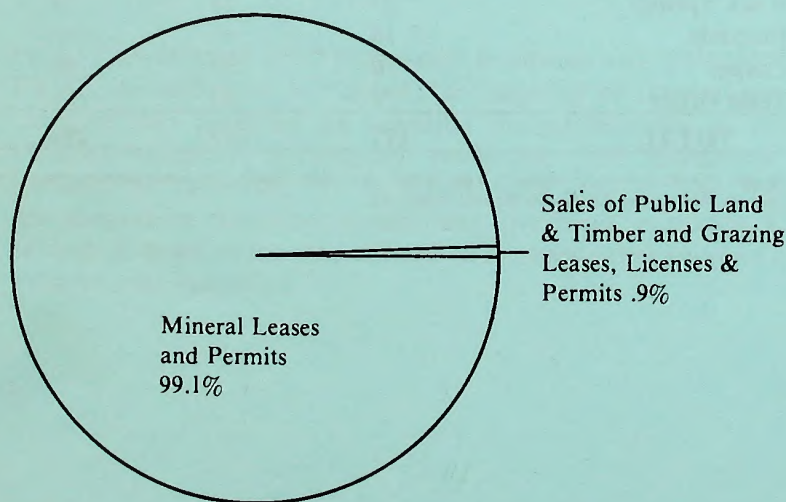


Table 5
ALLOCATION OF BLM RECEIPTS TO STATE OF WYOMING

Fiscal Year	Sale of Land & Timber	Mineral Leases and Permits	Grazing Leases, Licenses and Permits		
			Sec. 3	Sec. 15	Total
1975	\$ 7,308	\$33,562,830	\$85,586	\$227,168	\$33,882,892
1974	20,580	27,059,772	92,149	195,670	27,368,171
1973	7,193	18,262,995	78,189	164,546	18,512,923
1972	3,313	19,821,760	70,655	147,493	20,043,221
1971	13,473	21,721,413	68,932	117,927	21,921,745
1970	9,180	19,083,641	49,468	103,468	19,245,757
1969	6,381	17,660,165	53,235	78,030	17,797,811
1968	3,714	15,859,640	41,806	77,844	15,983,004
1967	3,891	15,095,536	40,603	82,826	15,222,856
1966	3,884	14,790,649	41,255	76,227	14,912,015
1965	4,485	15,118,846	39,113	75,863	15,238,307

Chart 2
ALLOCATION OF BLM RECEIPTS TO STATE OF WYOMING
(100% Pie Chart)



Grazing Leases, Licenses & Permits (Taylor Grazing Act of 1934)

Sec. 3

Range Impv't Fee (currently 50% of the total fee.)

—Appropriated by Congress for improvement

Grazing Fee (50%)

12½% returned to state where collected. Distributed to counties per Wyoming Statute 9-571, 9-572.

87½% deposited in U.S. Treasury in General fund.

Sec. 15

Range Impv't Fee (25%)

—Appropriated by Congress for range improvements.

Grazing Fee (75%)

2/3 to State. Distributed to counties per Wyoming Statute 9-570.

1/3 deposited in U.S. Treasury in general fund for "rent of land."

Mineral Leases & Permits (Mineral Leasing Act of 1920)

37½% to State. Distributed to school foundation program. Wyo. Highway Comm., Univ. of Wyo. and county of origin.

10% to U.S. Treasury in general fund

52½% to Reclamation Fund

Sale of Lands, Timber & Materials (Materials Act of 1947 as amended)

5% to State (common school permanent land fund).

95% to Reclamation Fund

In addition to providing these revenues to the state through the resource programs, the BLM makes another contribution to Wyoming's economy. An annual operating budget of more than \$8.7 million in Fiscal Year 1976 included the wages and salaries for construction, improvement and maintenance projects, and local purchase of goods and services. *Table 6 shows the magnitude of program expenditures involved by activity and year.*

Table 6

FISCAL YEAR OPERATING BUDGET

Activity	1974	1975	1976
Management of Lands & Resources			
Lands Management	\$ 257,000	\$1,247,000	\$ 871,900
Minerals Management	475,000	937,000	1,294,200
Range Management	418,000	538,000	1,271,100
Forest Management (including forest pest control)	113,000	189,000	142,200
Forest Development	14,000	19,000	27,400
Watershed Conservation & Development	495,000	587,000	349,500
Fire Protection (presuppression)	85,000	58,000	102,900
Recreation Management	97,000	358,000	409,600
Wildlife Habitat Management	130,000	307,000	352,400
Program Services ¹	1,177,000	1,386,000	2,077,200
Cadastral Survey	112,000	125,000	293,700
Subtotal	3,373,000	5,751,000	7,192,100
Construction & Maintenance			
Building Construction	—	—	97,000
Recreation Construction	6,000	4,000	86,000
Road Construction	263,000	438,000	218,000
Building Maintenance	20,000	29,000	39,500
Recreation Operations & Maintenance	67,000	91,000	141,700
Road Maintenance (including equipment operation)	135,000	163,000	176,900
Range Improvement	462,000	533,000	783,800
Subtotal	953,000	1,258,000	1,542,900
TOTAL	\$4,326,000	\$7,009,000	\$8,735,000

¹Includes general administration, office and personnel services, supplies, office leases and other support activities.

The Manpower Spread

The tremendous surge in public demand has necessitated more specialization among the BLM scientists and technicians charged with looking after the national resource land. *Table 7 reflects personnel growth in Wyoming consistent with program needs.*

Table 7

PERMANENT BLM EMPLOYEES

Office	June 30, 1973	June 30, 1974 ¹	June 30, 1975
Worland	23	28	34
Lander	18	—	—
Rawlins	18	35	53
Rock Springs	23	38	54
Pinedale	16	—	—
Casper	20	31	46
State Office	79	83	109
TOTAL	197	215	296

¹In early 1974 BLM-Wyoming changed to a four-district organization. Pinedale and Lander are now resource areas under the Rock Springs and Rawlins Districts, respectively.

Recreational use by backpackers, rockhounds, hunters and fishermen, photographers, campers and picknickers among others, has boomed. This has required increased protection for archeological sites, improved access through intermingled private lands, safety planning to minimize natural and man-made hazards, as well as other services. The National Environmental Policy Act formalized review of environmental consideration and demands a more intensive and well-rounded look at all proposals, for the national resource land. Joining BLM biologists, botanists and minerals scientists therefore, are other specialists knowledgeable of social sciences, human values and economics. Surface protection requirements have also increased staggeringly as a result of increased concern for the reclamation and rehabilitation of land temporarily disturbed in connection with mineral or other developments.

An increase of 85 permanent positions was authorized in FY 75. As indicated in *Table 8*, the majority of the manpower increase was assigned in scientific disciplines with a minor portion assigned in support positions. The reduction in managerial positions is consistent with one of the recent reorganization objectives to minimize "overhead" positions. This savings in head count was utilized to increase other support and professional positions.

Table 8
PERMANENT/WAE & PTCC BLM EMPLOYEES
BY GENERAL PROGRAM TYPE

Type	June 30, 1973	June 30, 1974	June 30, 1975
Executive Program Management	8	8	6
Other Management	37	37	31
Support Services			
Admin-Personnel-Clerical	27/12	28/13	38/17
Legal Clk-Records Spec	21/1	21/1	25/1
Engineering Tech	4/7	5/9	7/9
Equipment & Maint Oper	0/12	0/13	0/10
Support Svcs Subtotal	52/32	54/36	70/37
Professional Specialists			
Realty Specialist	8	9	15
Mining Engr-Geologist	11	16	26
Range-Watershed Hydrologist	28/2	35/2	27/16
Foresters	5/2	5/2	11/2
Recreation-Archeologist	7	8	18
Wildlife-Fisheries	7	7	17
Soil Scientist-Agronomist	1	1	12
Land Appraiser	1	1	3
Engineers	8	8	9
Access-Fire	3	3	6
Land Surveyor	4/1	4/1	4/1
Land Law Examiner	10	11	13
Planners-Env Coord-Anal	6	6	10
Public Info Officer	1	1	5
Surface Prot-Compliance	0	0	13
Professional Spec Subtotal	100/5	115/5	189/19
STATE TOTAL	197/37	214/41	296/56

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Planning for the best use of land on a long and short term basis continues to be of the highest priority with the BLM. A most important consideration in making land use decisions is the assessment of both adverse and beneficial environmental impacts that might result. Systematic approaches are necessary in the development of planning as well as in determining the various levels of environmental analysis needed for the national resource lands. These approaches are briefly described here.

Land Use Plans

Twenty-six land use plans called "management framework plans" (MFP) have been completed covering all national resource lands in Wyoming. These plans consist of a number of maps, overlays, and narrative texts developed and maintained by the district and area offices. The land use planning job is never complete, but rather requires frequent recycling of new information and data to assure that the plans reflect proper land management. The BLM planning process involves a series of steps to develop analytical components used by district managers in making land use decisions. Public participation is sought throughout the planning effort. The effective engagement of other Federal, State, and local governmental officials as well as user or interest groups and the general public is extremely important in the planning process.

Following completion of the management framework plans and environmental assessments, specific land management actions maybe initiated. These may include the implementation of grazing management plans, granting of oil and gas leases and construction of fences and reservoirs.

A description of the planning system and its components follows:

INVENTORY

Collection of data on current resource supply and production, potential production, condition and trend. These data are arranged, analyzed and summarized in URA Steps III and IV.

This total process included programs for lands, minerals, range, wildlife, recreation, forests, and watershed and cadastral and roads support.

Compiled by area office resource specialists and by contract.

Inventory data is used in the development of the Unit Resource Analysis (URA).

Unit Resource Analysis (URA)

Step I

Preparation of base map for the area being studied. Includes all land regardless of ownership.

Step II

Development of narratives describing the physical profile of the area being studied including topography, climate, geology, soils, vegetation, water, animals, fire, erosion condition, hazards, development, access, etc.

Compiled by area office resource specialists.

Step III

Analysis of inventory data and any other available information to record the present situation in narratives and on overlays with respect to current use, production, trends, quality, etc.

Compiled by area office resource specialists.

Step IV

Development of projections for potential resource enhancement, improvement, and production capability considering time frames for each resource, constrained only by technical feasibility.

Compiled by district office resource specialists ignoring any resource conflicts.

Another component of the URA is the Ecological Profile.

Ecological Profile

Compilation of narratives and overlays describing area being studied in terms of biomes, ecological communities, baseline data, environmental quality, critical areas of environmental concern, etc.

Compiled by district office resource specialists.

(URA-Step IV recommendations are "bounced off" the Ecological Profile.)

Used in reaching MFP II analyses and MFP-Step III decisions.

Management Framework Plan (MFP)

Step I

Development of tentative resource production objectives related to PAA demand projections, as constrained by social, economic and policy factors, with rationale, output, benefits, etc. Includes alternatives for achieving objectives including support needs such as cadastral survey, access, etc.

Compiled by area office resource specialists ignoring other resource conflicts.

Step II

Analysis of economic, social institutional and environmental impacts of resource recommendations, interrelationships among resource recommendations and resource values. Includes reconciliation and coordination of competing recommendations including those contained in state or local land use plans. Alternatives may be proposed.

Compiled by the area manager who provides the district manager a multiple use analysis.

Step III

Further analysis of Step II data to reach and record planning decisions for each resource program. Cumulative environmental impacts are summarized as are benefits, outputs, etc. Resource overlays for management decisions are prepared and decisions are published.

Compiled by district manager.

The decisions developed and analyzed in the URA are used to compile the Management Framework Plan (MFP).

Two additional components used in the MFP are:

Planning Area Analysis (PAA)

Collection and analysis of socio-economic data for a discrete sub-unit of a district (an MFP area, resource area, etc.). Contains economic demand projections for each resource, social value analysis, infrastructure, Bureau relations, critical environmental area analysis, planning area perspective, summary of issues and problems, etc.

Compiled by district economists-planners.

Socio-Economic Profile (SEPA)

Collection and analysis of socio-economic data on a district-wide basis, including population, public attitudes, public attitudes, public finance and tax base, industry analysis, infrastructure, Bureau relationships in the area, other agency plans, etc. Consists of tables and narratives on non-physical data.

Evaluation and Revision

The planning system is flexible and therefore evaluations and revisions are necessary to determine that objectives are being met.

Environmental Protection and Enhancement

The Bureau's objective in environmental protection and enhancement is to manage its programs and activities to attain the widest range of beneficial uses. Careful attention is given to avoid undue environmental degradation, risk to health or safety, and impairment of long-term productivity of lands and resources.

Good conservation practices are considered in all resource planning and decision making involving responsibilities for the national resource lands. Consistent with national, state, and local policies, the Bureau strives to maintain, protect, or improve environmental quality in all aspects of its work. Public participation is sought at the earliest opportunity in the formulation of Bureau plans, programs, and actions.

The Bureau cooperates with various federal, state, and local agencies involved in protection and enhancement of environmental quality.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires consideration and disclosure of proposed federal actions or programs and the necessary measures to mitigate any damaging effects these actions might have. Accordingly, an environmental impact statement (EIS) is developed on all major actions significantly affecting the human environment. The key words here are major and significant. To make this determination, BLM uses a preliminary assessment of any proposed action which is known as an "Environmental Analysis Record" (EAR). It describes the proposed action and related environment. The EAR further deals with the recommended measures for possible adverse and residual impacts, short term versus long term productivity, and the irreversible commitment of resources. The EAR uses an interdisciplinary approach which may be developed at varying levels of complexity by either a BLM district office or resource area office.

If based on the EAR, the District Manager believes a full EIS is required, his recommendation and justification are forwarded through administrative levels to the Director of the Bureau. The Director may then direct the development of an EIS if the manager's recommendation is accepted. In some cases, the proposed action may be so controversial as to obviously require an EIS and a recommendation may be made for an EIS without going through the process of an EAR. The EIS is a much more comprehensive document than an EAR and receives much greater public exposure. Many of the same components are analyzed as with the EAR, but at much greater depth.

If the District Manager decides that no EIS is needed, he may allow an action to proceed with the necessary stipulations required to protect the environment.

BLM in Wyoming takes approximately 9,000 discrete actions each year which require some level of environmental assessment. (See Table 9.) The Bureau's goal in succeeding years will be to increase efficiency in developing both EAR's and EIS's and thereby realize a substantial reduction in time and cost.

Table 9
NUMBER OF ACTIONS REQUIRING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BY YEAR

Program	1972	1973	1974	1975
Lands	493	439	492	1,089
Minerals	2,515	4,424	3,989	3,767
Range ¹	3,444	3,990	4,327	3,889
Timber	82	79	472	499
Watershed	86	55	45	29
Recreation	3	8	10	16
Wildlife	5	12	0	2
Recreation Construction	42	32	0	0
Roads and Trails	80	36	32	30
Range Improvement	162	146	124	213
TOTAL	6,812	9,221	9,491	9,534
Man Month Expenditure	2.7	48.4	175.2	185.9

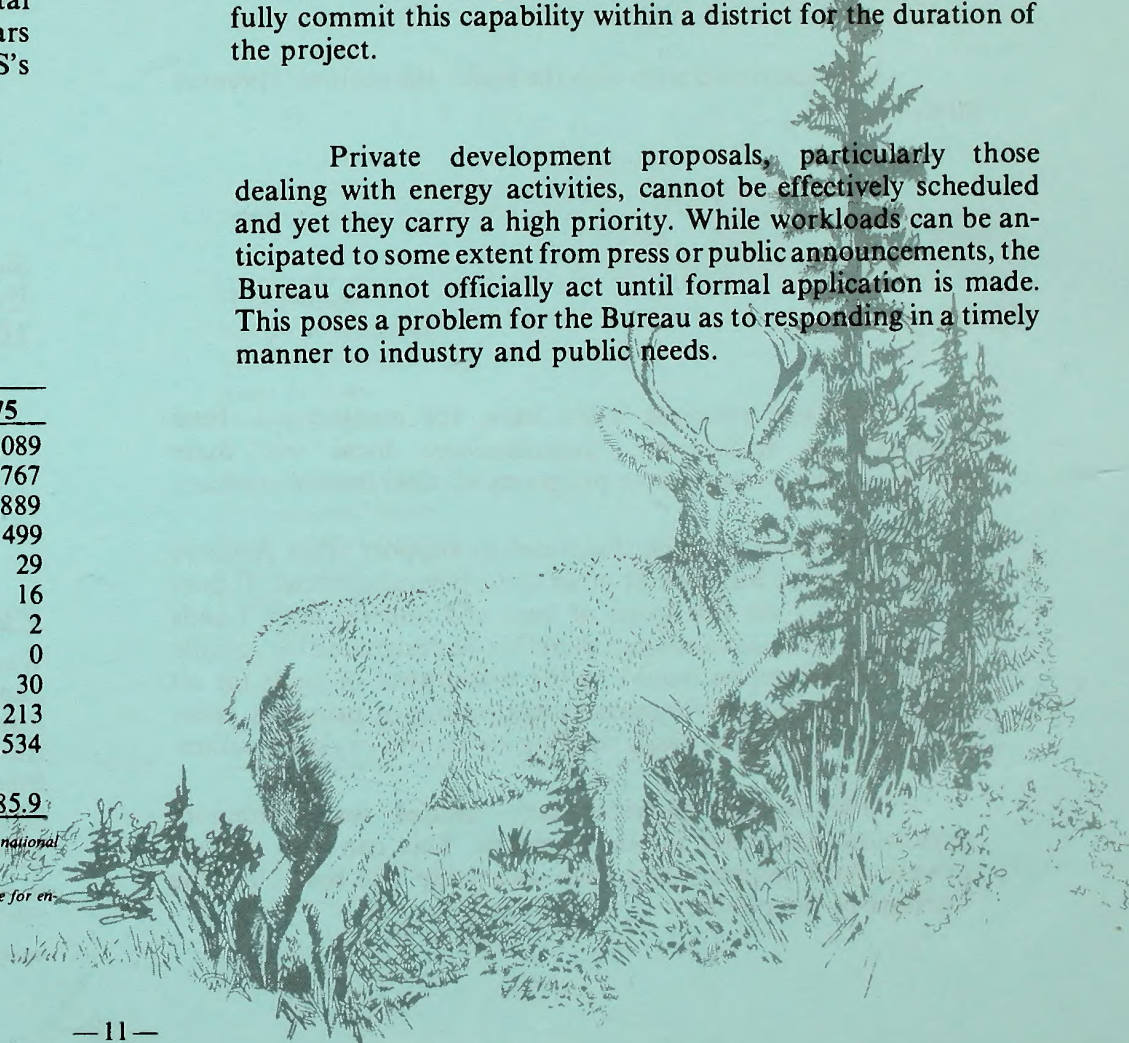
¹EAR's will not be prepared for future grazing licenses and leases since EIS's will encompass a majority of Wyoming's national resource land livestock operations.

In the timber, watershed, recreation, and range improvement programs, like projects are grouped wherever possible for environmental assessment purposes.

One EIS priority which has been decreed by court order is the development of range EIS's on all national resource lands within Wyoming. Other anticipated priorities involve proposals for mineral development throughout the State.

One of the most pressing problems with environmental analysis is with proposed actions from other sources than the BLM as with private industry and citizens. The Bureau's capability to assemble interdisciplinary teams within districts or state is limited by personnel and skills available at a given time in each office. A single major EAR or EIS for example, could fully commit this capability within a district for the duration of the project.

Private development proposals, particularly those dealing with energy activities, cannot be effectively scheduled and yet they carry a high priority. While workloads can be anticipated to some extent from press or public announcements, the Bureau cannot officially act until formal application is made. This poses a problem for the Bureau as to responding in a timely manner to industry and public needs.



THE RESOURCES

For administrative purposes, the BLM handles its resource programs in seven categories: lands, minerals, range, forestry, watershed, recreation and wildlife. For clarity, they will be described separately on the following pages.

None of the resources, however, are truly separable. All are interrelated and programs to develop or maintain one resource may influence other resources.

It all starts and ends with the land—the national resource land.

Lands

National resource lands have, for many years, been conveyed to individuals, organizations, local and state governments, or reserved for programs of other federal agencies.

The lands program functions to support other resource programs of the Bureau and other state/federal agencies. It does so by limiting the full scope of land and mineral laws. Lands possessing unusual values can therefore be designated for specific programs. Examples would be the withdrawal of lands for oil shale, recreation development, preservation of primitive areas and temporary withdrawals pending legislation or classification.

The Bureau provides land needed for community expansion and other public purposes. This can also include private development where such ownership will best serve the interests of the public.

The land program activities in Wyoming include: planning, classification and appraisal; sales; record maintenance; the administration of leases; rights-of-way; and land use permits. (See Tables 10, 11, and 12.)

Table 10
LAND LEASES IN FORCE FY 1975

Type of Lease	Number	Acres
Airport	3	860.00
Public Works	2	8.00
<i>Recreation & Public Purposes</i>		
State	5	964.00
County	6	830.77
City	2	153.97
Non-profit organizations	7	723.84
School Districts	4	141.45
Sanitary Landfill Sites	2	633.00
Subtotal (R&PP)	26	3,477.03
Small Tract	15	574.00
Water Well	3	120.00
TOTAL	49	5,009.03

Table 11
SPECIAL LAND USE PERMITS IN FORCE FY 1975

District	Without Rental ¹		With Rental ²		Total		Total Rent
	Number	Acres	Number	Acres	Number	Acres	
Worland	15	26,729	17	4,999	32	31,728	\$ 588
Lander	16	12,045	8	255	24	12,300	481
Rawlins	14	676	22	1,421	36	2,097	740
Rawlins	35	1,630	18	2,293	53	3,923	788
Pinedale	3	362	9	82	12	444	258
Casper	4	104,016	11	354	15	104,370	782
TOTAL	87	145,458	85	9,404	172	154,862	\$3,637

¹Special Land Use Permits without rental include those to state and federal government agencies, University of Wyoming, some non-profit organizations and similar entities.

²Special Land Use Permits with rental include those to individuals, corporations and other entities not qualifying for free use.

Table 12
LAND PATENTS¹ ISSUED

Type	FY 1966-1974		FY 1975	
	Number	Acres	Number	Acres
Desert Land	56	13,586	3	448
Homestead	9	1,073	0	0
Recreation & Public Purposes	33	5,796	3	762
Public Sale	165	27,072	4	821
Mineral	28	9,037	12	2,195
State Indemnity Selection	29	13,829	0	0
State School Land Grants ²	55	1,464,095	10	360,631
Exchanges ³	49	43,576	3	602
Indian Allotments	274	25,494	8	761
Reclamation Sales	230	25,579	32	9,372
TOTAL	928	1,629,137	75	375,592

¹A patent is the document which conveys legal title to public land.

²Confirmation of previous grants of land to the state for support of schools.

Total state school land entitlement was:

6th Principal Meridian — 3,213,229
Wind River Meridian — 133,804
3,347,033

³... of public for private or state land of comparable value.

The passage of the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934 was the first law to require classification of lands prior to their disposal. Since the enactment of that law, all lands must be examined and found to be suitable for their intended use before disposal. The classification system requires notice to those parties who may be affected by the action. This includes local/state governmental authority and planning agency, the applicant, any existing permittee and adjoining landowners. This notification serves to prevent the authorization of land use which may be in conflict with other programs. (See Table 13.)

Table 13
LANDS CASEWORK FY 1975

	Pending 6/30/74	New or Reactivated	Pending Closed 6/30/75	
Homesteads	6	1	5	2
Native Allotments	33	6	36	3
Mining Patents	50	7	13	56
State Grants	12	1	4	9
Desert Lands	80	38	17	101
R&PP	36	3	5	34
Rights-of-way	98	260	131	227
Non-mineral leases	5	10	9	6
Non-mineral permits	0	33	33	0
Public Sales	128	16	21	123
Public Sales ('64 Act)	2	0	2	0
Exchanges	6	7	1	12
Other	10	30	34	6
Withdrawals	10	3	1	12
Restorations & Revocations	33	4	9	28
TOTALS	509	419	321	619

Under temporary authority of the Classification and Multiple Use Act of 1964, the BLM was authorized for the first time to classify lands for retention in federal ownership in recognition of significant public values. Large blocks of land were thus classified for retention in federal ownership for multiple use management. Land was also classified for disposal to meet demands for urban expansion, recreation areas and other needs. *Table 14 shows type of land classification for FY 1975.*

Table 14
LANDS CLASSIFIED¹ FY 1975

Type of Classification	Actions	Acres
Homestead Entry	0	0
Desert Land	3	448
Recreation & Public Purposes	3	761
Small Tracts	0	0
Public Sale	39	10,641
Exchange	3	602
Town Lot	9	2
TOTALS	57	12,454

¹Classification is the designation of lands as being either suitable or not suitable for specific purposes or resources under prescribed authorities. It is a prerequisite to actual lease or title transfer.

Minerals

Our system of laws allows for private ownership of land which gives the owner control of all rights to the property. The laws also allow for separation of some property rights from others, so that one person may own the surface but another the subsurface rights.

In the historic disposal of tracts to states and private individuals from our original territories, title to the surface and the subsurface rights was separated to a degree few people realize. As title was conveyed, the government reserved rights to the underground minerals on millions of acres of land otherwise passing into private ownership.

This circumstance has important implications for the management of mineral resources on the national resource lands. In Wyoming, mineral rights to about 13.5 million acres of now privately-owned land were reserved to the public. BLM-Wyoming is responsible for administering the mineral rights on not only the 17.5-million acres of national resource lands but on these 13.5-million acres of private land as well. In addition, the BLM is responsible for leasing minerals on some 12.5-million acres under the general administrative control of other federal agencies.

Minerals on the public lands are categorized by law as:

—**Locatable.** Those may be “staked” and claimed under the General Mining Law of 1872. These are mainly metals (e.g., gold, silver, lead, copper, zinc and uranium) but also include some nonmetallic minerals such as fluorspar, asbestos and mica.

—**Saleable.** Those that may be sold under the Materials Sale Act of 1947. These include common varieties of sand, stone, scoria and gravel.

—**Leasable.** Those that may be leased under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. These include oil and gas, oil shale, coal, phosphates, trona (sodium), potassium and geothermal resources. (See Table 15.)

Table 15

**LEASABLE MINERAL PRODUCTION, VALUE AND ROYALTY,
FROM NATIONAL RESOURCE AND ACQUIRED LANDS**

Mineral	Fiscal Year	Production	Value	Royalty
Oil and Condensate (barrels)	FY 73	78,461,539	\$249,378,934	\$31,629,149
	74	110,191,473	609,265,878	80,216,883
	75	79,182,919	511,201,249	64,315,059
Natural Gas (thousands cu ft)	FY 73	182,550,220	35,453,207	4,312,638
	74	194,985,332	38,665,533	4,675,685
	75	200,413,628	48,024,867	5,851,733
Gasoline and Liquid Gas (gallons)	FY 73	193,218,647	10,250,062	527,790
	74	203,877,439	15,965,959	737,378
	75	164,855,436	37,105,376	1,433,846
Coal (tons)	FY 73	4,991,059	18,199,303	780,525
	74	8,458,014	38,275,298	1,370,732
	75	11,761,915	62,514,926	2,249,791
Sulfur (tons)	FY 74	18,526	345,289	10,961
	75	362,563	2,501,192	72,916
Phosphate (tons)	FY 73	28,398	127,791	7,100
	74	349,385	1,572,233	82,704
	75	279,708	1,258,686	67,775
Sodium (tons)	FY 73	1,384,000	31,325,023	1,317,524
	74	1,276,512	29,825,962	1,273,673
	75	1,734,552	61,066,727	2,667,572
TOTALS	FY 73	N/A	\$344,734,320	\$38,574,726
	74	N/A	\$733,916,152	\$88,368,016
	75	N/A	\$723,673,023	\$76,658,692

Mineral production on national resource land in Wyoming represents a major portion of total mineral production in the state. Wyoming leads the nation in production of bentonite, soda ash and uranium. It ranks fifth in oil, seventh in natural gas, and ninth in coal production. In 1974, the taxable valuation of all mineral production in the state totaled over one billion dollars. It is significant in that the property taxes paid on mineral production amounted to approximately 50 percent of the total property valuation of the state. The state also received royalty and lease rental income each year from the mineral ownership of both state and federal lands.

Known but untapped reserves of oil, natural gas, uranium and coal make Wyoming one of the potential leaders in energy-mineral production.

Oil and Gas — Production

Oil was first produced in Wyoming from a well drilled in 1884. Only 5 years later the Salt Creek field, a major field in this region, was discovered. Today, Wyoming ranks fifth in production in the United States. BLM maintains 40,000 outstanding leases on a stable to slightly increasing basis. These leases embrace approximately 23 million acres. Production during 1975 was over 79,200,000 barrels. There has been some minor decline in recent years but production is expected to remain fairly stable depending on national policy developments.

Natural gas is often associated with oil production with some exceptions. Our federal land production follows the same trends as oil, yielding 200 billion cubic feet in 1975. All production in Wyoming ranks seventh among the states.

Oil and Gas — Exploration, Leasing and Compliance

Geophysical exploration for oil and gas on national resource lands is a major program in Wyoming. Operators are required to file a Notice of Intent to Conduct Geophysical Exploration Operations before they enter onto NRL. They are also required to file a Notice of Completion upon leaving NRL. The operator and BLM cooperate and coordinate on geophysical exploration operations to insure that such activities are conducted in an environmentally sound manner.

Two hundred seventy-one Notices of Intent and 415 Notices of Completion were filed in the district offices in 1975. There were more Notices of Completion filed than Notices of Intent because of the carry over of Notices of Intent from 1974.

Each year around 4,000 oil and gas leases are issued mainly through the simultaneous leasing system. About 250 tracts are offered each month and over \$1,000,000 per month is received in filing fees. (See Tables 16 and 17.) Leases are acquired on around 1,000 tracts each year under the competitive bidding system and on open filings.

Table 16
MINERAL LEASES IN EFFECT ON NATIONAL RESOURCE
AND ACQUIRED LANDS

Year	Oil and Gas		Coal	Sodium & Phosphate			Total	
	Lease —	Acreage	Lease —	Acreage	Lease —	Acreage	Lease —	Acreage
1973	37,881	20,994,085	91	201,821	55	91,554	38,027	21,287,450
1974	39,889	22,760,498	91	201,821	55	91,554	40,035	23,053,863
1975	39,760	24,052,812	93	199,941	59	99,746	39,912	24,352,499

Table 17
ISSUED OIL AND GAS LEASES

Year	Type Lease	Number	Acreage	Return
1974	Competitive	118	25,409	\$ 520,258 ¹
	Non-Competitive	3,759	2,826,589	6,937,298 ²
	Total — 1974	3,877	2,851,998	7,457,556
1975	Competitive	159	33,510	1,737,833 ¹
	Non-Competitive	2,940	2,136,314	11,981,627 ²
	Total — 1975	3,099	2,169,824	13,719,460

¹Total of competitive bonus bids

²Includes \$10.00 filing fee with each "simultaneous" application (1,091,347 in 1975) and \$0.50 annual rent per acre for first year.

If a lessee or operator wishes to develop his lease he must file an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) with Geological Survey. GS and BLM jointly approve and monitor oil and gas development activities.

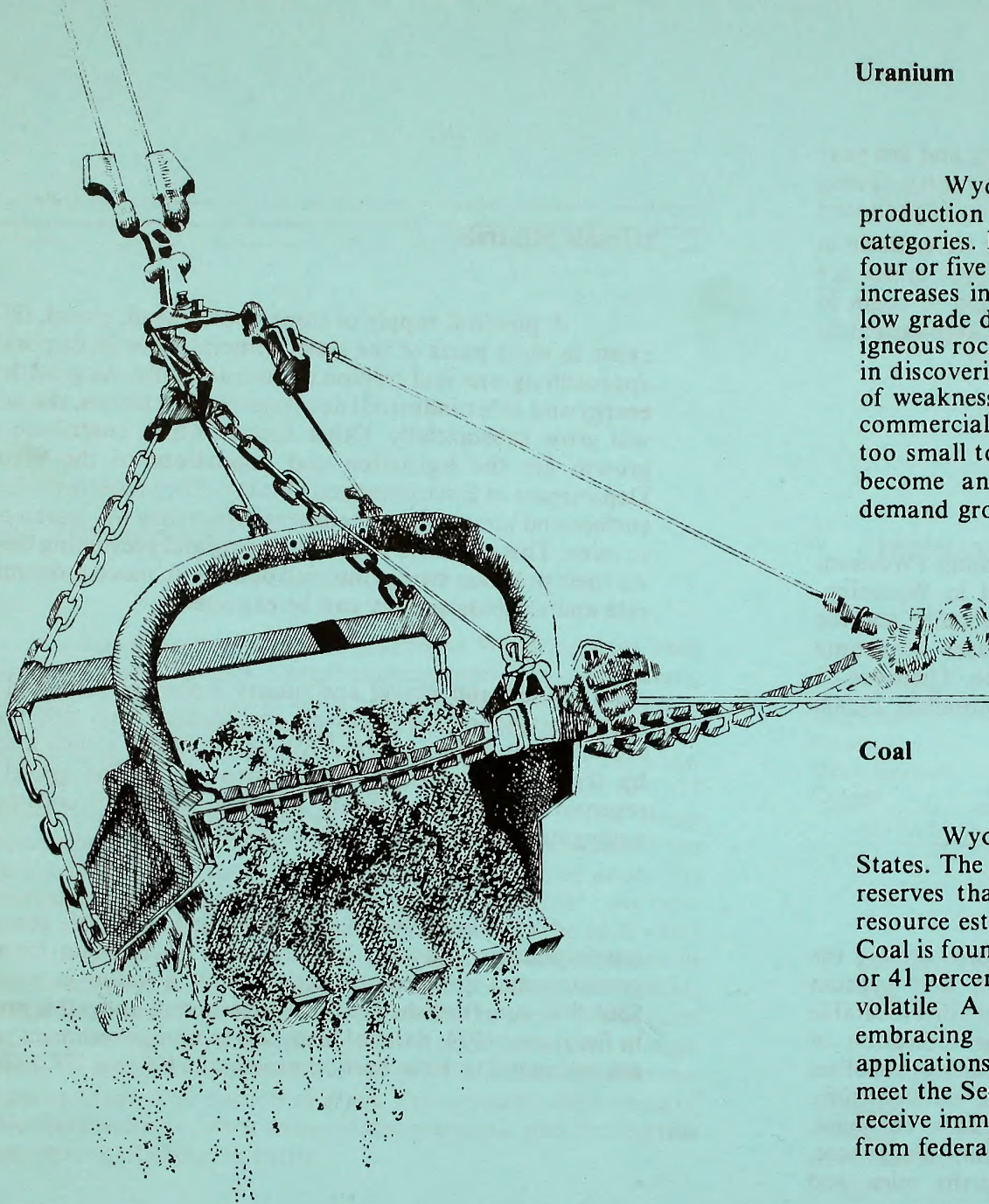
Whenever operations at a site are complete or a well is abandoned, the operator is required to file an Abandonment Notice with GS. Compliance inspections are conducted at this time to insure that the site is properly conditioned for abandonment. Table 18 lists the number of applications and abandonments approved in 1975.

Table 18
OIL AND GAS APPLICATIONS
AND ABANDONMENTS APPROVED — 1975

State	Application for Permit to Drill	Abandonments
Wyoming	867	563
Kansas	8	2
Nebraska	1	5
TOTAL	876	570

Uranium

Wyoming recently surpassed New Mexico in uranium production and reserves to become the leading state in both categories. In 1973 over 2,588,000 tons were mined. Currently, four or five large patent applications are filed each year. Recent increases in prices have expanded interest in the more massive low grade deposits found in Wyoming. Exploration of granitic igneous rocks in the mountain ranges of Wyoming have resulted in discoveries of ground water enrichment deposits along zones of weakness such as major faults. Another development is the commercial use of underground leaching of ore bodies which are too small to be mined by conventional methods. Uranium will become an increasingly important mineral in Wyoming as demand grows.



Coal

Wyoming's coal reserves are the largest in the United States. The Powder River Basin in Wyoming alone has greater reserves than all but two countries in the world. Incomplete resource estimates peg coal reserves at around 137 trillion tons. Coal is found under more than 40,000 square miles of Wyoming or 41 percent of the state. It ranges in rank from lignite to high volatile A bituminous. There are 93 leases outstanding, embracing 199,960 acres and 21 coal prospecting permit applications for 63,160 acres. Forty one applications appear to meet the Secretary's short-term coal leasing criteria and should receive immediate attention. Over 8 million tons were produced from federal leases last year.

Trona/Sodium

Trona is an important mineral commodity and last year federal leases produced 1.7 million tons. Steady growth is of long standing and can be expected to continue. Trona is produced from the Green River formation within the Green River Basin in Sweetwater County. Reserves are extensive. Three mines are operating and a fourth is preparing for operation to begin in 1976. Production is underground at a depth of approximately 1,000 feet.

Bentonite

Most of the world consumption of sodium (Western, Wyoming, or Swelling) bentonite is produced in Wyoming. There are three major markets—drilling mud, taconite, and the foundry industry. Hundreds of other uses consume approximately 10 percent of the total production. There are 42 bentonite patent applications for 830 claims embracing 25,500 acres pending in Wyoming.

Other Locatable Minerals

Significant production of iron ore (fourth among the states), gemstones (eighth among the states), and gypsum (342,000 tons) occurred in 1975. A wide variety of other locatable minerals are actively being sought with some indication of occurrence. They include copper, gold, silver, platinum zeolites (probably leasable), alumina, sulfur, thorium, molybdenum, beryl, asbestos, titanium, talc, tungsten, selenium, chromite, feldspar, vermiculite, lead, zinc, fluorite, tin, manganese, graphite, lithium, bismuth, glass sand, rare earths, mica, and many others.

Saleable Minerals

A plentiful supply of stone, scoria, sand, gravel, fill, etc., exists in most parts of the state. Mineral material disposals are approaching one half million dollars annually. As growth from energy and other industrial development accelerates, this activity will grow substantially. Other factors which contribute to its growth are the legislation and regulations of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality. They require evidence of surface and mineral owner consent before they will issue a permit to mine. This system is both uncovering and preventing trespass. As their program swings into full operation, much more mineral sale and trespass activity can be expected.

Sand and gravel and quarry stone are furnished for a large portion of the highway construction and other major construction projects from National Resource Lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Sand and gravel from reserved minerals constitute a major source of construction aggregates in the eastern half of the state.

Sand and gravel are supplied free of charge to municipalities, counties, and the state government for use in governmental projects. Materials with a value in excess of \$300,000 were furnished to local government under this program in fiscal year 1974. Sales of materials to non-government entities are estimated to have been in excess of \$100,000 FY 1974.

Under BLM administration and in comparison to other Western States, Wyoming ranks:

First in animal units under grazing authorization.

Second in animal unit months of forage use authorized under lease and licenses.

Third in acres administered and total livestock users.

(See Tables 19 and 20.)

Range Management

The history of livestock grazing in Wyoming goes back for more than 100 years. Large ranching enterprises were among the first uses of the public lands in Wyoming. Cattle numbers in the state increased from 36,000 in 1867 to 780,000 in 1885. Sheep began to appear on Wyoming rangelands in the mid-1880's and by 1894 outnumbered cattle by more than a million. In 1933 sheep numbers reached a peak of 3.7 million. These sheep operations were mostly nomadic and many spent all year on the public lands. The condition of the range deteriorated under this increased use and under situations where users could only hold on to a range where he had it heavily stocked. In the 1920's and 30's, ranchers and concerned conservationists demanded action which resulted in the passage of the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934. Since that time, Wyoming has ranked first in sheep production and fourth in cattle production in the Western States even though sheep numbers have dropped to 1.5 million. Cattle numbers are now up to the same number as sheep. The economic depression of the sheep industry, labor and predator problems are affecting this conversion of sheep to cattle.

Table 19
ESTIMATED GRAZING INSIDE GRAZING DISTRICTS
(SECTION 3 LANDS)

District	Number of Operators	Number of Cattle & Horses	Number of Sheep	Authorized Active Use in AUM's
Worland	385	68,747	186,715	234,260
Rawlins	386	134,825	319,323	590,670
Rock Springs	429	135,854	395,504	582,306
Casper	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTAL	1,200	339,426	901,542	1,407,236

Table 20
ESTIMATED GRAZING OUTSIDE GRAZING DISTRICTS
(SECTION 15 LANDS)

District	Number of Operators	Number of Cattle & Horses	Number of Sheep	Authorized Active Use in AUM's
Worland	146	15,000	35,000	52,149
Rawlins	307	145,000	107,034	71,890
Rock Springs	67	2,388	5,980	11,029
Casper	1,260	366,837	720,405	314,100
TOTAL	1,780	530,085	868,419	449,168

Table 21 shows numbers of livestock and operators by land class and year.

Table 21
OPERATORS AND LIVESTOCK

Grazing Year	Sec 3 Permits 1,000's of Livestock			Sec 15 Leases 1,000's of Livestock		
	Number of Cattle &			Number of Cattle &		
	Operators	Horses	Sheep	Operators	Horses	Sheep
1975	1,200	323	804	1,728	538	868
1974	1,187	316	835	1,728	500	1,046
1973	1,252	289	861	1,728	501	1,045
1972	1,324	286	987	1,751	490	887
1971	1,194	258	899	1,722	464	678
1970	1,202	275	1,092	1,702	357	817
1969	1,182	259	1,088	1,700	479	943
1968	1,160	247	1,113	1,663	460	928
1967	1,298	269	1,147	1,819	454	930
1966	1,236	261	1,043	1,695	447	812
1965	1,216	243	1,005	1,718	429	829

National Resource Defense Council Suit

The National Resource Defense Council (NRDC) brought suit against the BLM for failing to write environmental impact statements (EIS) for the livestock grazing that was being authorized on public lands. The court decision rendered December 30, 1974, was favorable to the NRDC and required the BLM to prepare environmental impact statements on all grazing authorized on national resource lands. An agreement was developed between the BLM and the NRDC which was subsequently approved by the court outlining the manner by which the EIS's were to be prepared.

This court order requires that environmental impact statements be prepared on over six million acres in Wyoming over the next 5 years. (*Refer to Table 22.*)

Table 22
WYOMING SCHEDULE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENTS

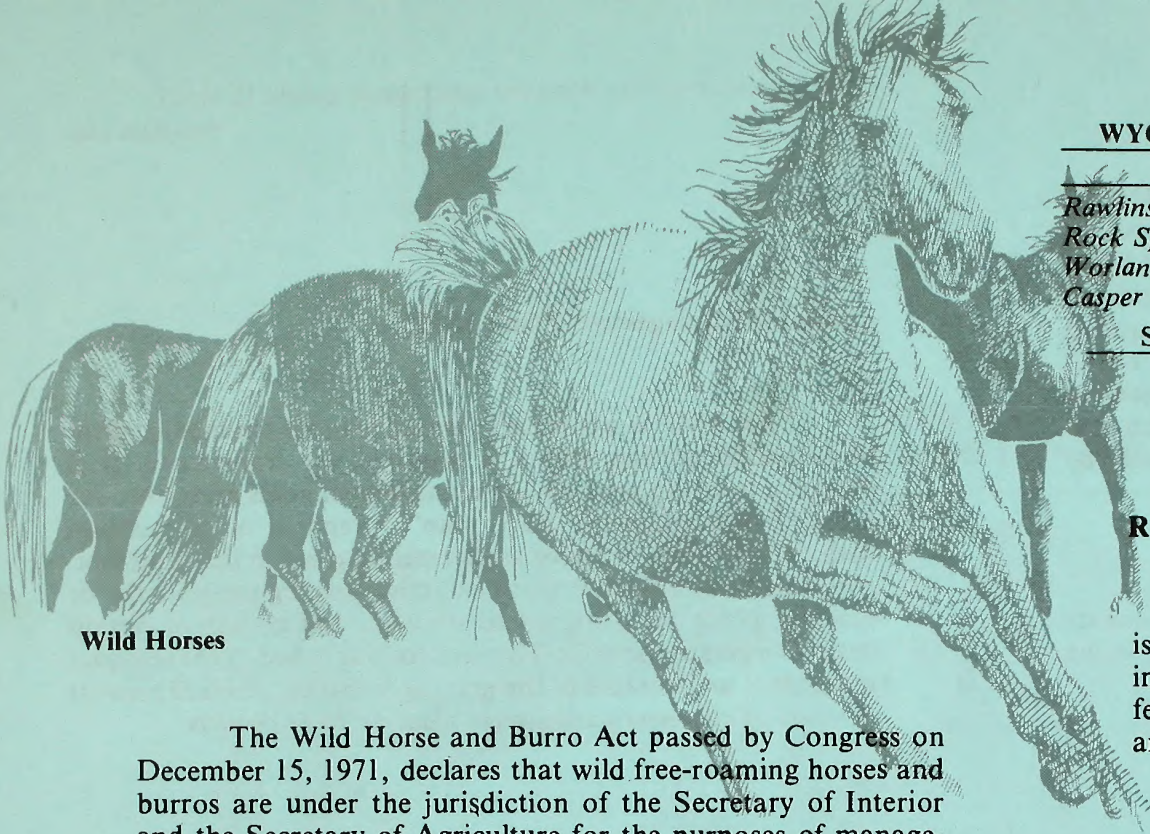
Fiscal Year	Area	Acreage	District
1977	Sandy	2,085,000	Rock Springs
1978	Seven Lakes-Ferris	650,000	Rawlins
1979	Green Mountain	1,243,000	Rawlins
1980	Broken Back	1,461,000	Worland
1980	West Slope	602,000	Worland
1981	South Big Horn	264,000	Casper
1981	Dull Knife	88,000	Casper
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>6,393,000</i>	
<i>1982-90</i>	<i>33 areas</i>	<i>est 10,000,000</i>	<i>Statewide</i>

Allotment Management Plan (AMP)

An AMP is a concisely written plan for the management of livestock grazing within a multiple use framework. It is designed to attain multiple use management goals prescribed for each grazing allotment. Each plan is prepared in cooperation with the livestock operator authorized to graze in the allotment. Allotment management plans establish grazing use patterns or systems which are designed to stimulate the growth of certain desired vegetative species. They are accomplished by the seasonal movement and control of the grazing livestock. *Table 23 presents numbers of allotment management plans by BLM districts.*

Table 23
ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLANS

District	Number of Plans	BLM Acreage
Worland	34	594,695
Rawlins	23	468,254
Rock Springs	20	703,944
Casper	11	139,923
TOTALS	88	1,906,816



Wild Horses

The Wild Horse and Burro Act passed by Congress on December 15, 1971, declares that wild free-roaming horses and burros are under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture for the purposes of management and protection.

Most of the free-roaming horses and burros in Wyoming are located in the southwest quarter of the state. Small herds run in several areas in central Wyoming near Green Mountain and in the Big Horn Basin. Over a long period of time, numbers have fluctuated in response to many factors.

The growth of the livestock industry in the West, the loss of the military markets following World War I, the abandonment of farm horses due to mechanization, the extensive gathering of horses for commercial meat purposes, the periods of extreme weather and forage conditions, and the recent passage of legislation to protect and manage wild free-roaming horses have all contributed in some way to changing populations. *Table 24 shows the BLM district inventory of horses as based on information derived from actual counts.*

Table 24
WYOMING WILD HORSE INVENTORY BY BLM DISTRICTS

	Dec 1971	1974	1975
<i>Rawlins</i>	544	1799	2533
<i>Rock Springs</i>	2524	3629	4290
<i>Worland</i>	217	331	423
<i>Casper</i>	0	60	45
Statewide Total	3285	5819	7291

Range Improvement

A percentage of the annual grazing fee paid by stockmen is returned to the district in which it is collected for range improvement work. These improvements include seeding, fencing and water developments as reservoirs, springs, pipelines and troughs. (*See Table 25.*)

Table 25
RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Type of Investment	Completed Fiscal Year 1975	Completed to Date
Vegetation Manipulation ¹	—	366,269
Fences	64	4,528
Reservoirs	29	2,882
Springs	12	275
Wells	7	516
Water Catchments ²	—	148
Supplemental Water Facilities ³	17	248
Truck & Stock Trails (miles)	—	1,068

¹Sagebrush spraying and plowing to increase production of grass for both soil stabilization and forage.

²To collect water that would otherwise run off.

³To move developed well or spring water to areas of need using pipelines and troughs.

Forestry

Approximately one quarter million acres of national resource lands in Wyoming are forested with commercial species of timber. These include lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir and Englemann spruce. Most of these forested areas are located along the fringes of four national forests and seldom occur as well blocked forest areas. The remainder of the forest lands consist of scattered small areas throughout the state and pose special problems in regard to markets and access.

Dwarf mistletoe and the mountain pine beetle commonly occur in the pine stands which are usually overstocked and overmature. Considerable effort has been expended in the past to control beetles by cutting individual trees and spraying or burning. Direct control, however, is no longer used except to maintain past control efforts in recreation or scenic areas where harvest is not feasible. Many stands of lodgepole pine are infested with dwarf mistletoe which results in growth loss and rapid deterioration of stands. Clearcutting in blocks under forty acres has been used in the past and is still being applied to regenerate these stands.

The annual harvest rate from forested public lands in Wyoming averaged approximately six million board feet during the 1960's. In recent years, however, the annual cut has been one million feet. (See Table 26.) This has adequately met local demands which are mostly in the form of minor forest products. The reduction in harvest was partly the result of decisions concerning the need for a reinventory and improved planning efforts which diverted manpower from any intensive forest management practices.

Table 26
TIMBER PRODUCT AND VEGETATIVE DISPOSALS

Fiscal Year	Saw Timber (mbf) ¹		Fuel Wood (cords)		Post and Poles (mbf) ¹		Christmas Trees (number)	
	Volume	Value \$	Volume	Value \$	Volume	Value \$	Volume	Value \$
1972	1,044	10,700	324	299	226	2,101	1,170	887
1973	404	9,494	490	169	1,227	1,227	310	310
1974	582	9,466	620	648	303	2,618	822	822
1975	2,635	19,117	827	1,148	378	4,014	1,178	1,162
1976 (estimated)	6,000	24,000	600	600	400	4,000	1,000	1,000

¹mbf — million board feet

Most forest sites in Wyoming are considered below average in terms of wood fiber production. (See Table 27.) Although usable products are grown, there is usually difficulty in regenerating stands and any unused material remains unsightly for many years. Additional roads may also cause problems due to accelerated erosion and damage to wildlife habitat. The obliteration or closure of these roads is more difficult as a result of steep terrain and low site productivity. Recent efforts to reduce clearcut size have required cull yarding. The stabilizing of logging roads may also help to reduce these problems.

Table 27
ESTIMATED AREA AND PRODUCING CAPACITY OF FOREST

	Woodland Acres	Productive Acres ¹	Total Acres	Production Standing Volume MBF ²	Capacity in MBF ³
Worland	147,000	31,000	178,000	128,000	1,000
Rawlins	211,000	50,000	261,000	245,000	1,750
Rock Springs	140,000	65,000	205,000	385,000	2,500
Casper	99,000	64,000	163,000	210,000	1,500
TOTAL	597,000	210,000	807,000	968,000	6,750

¹Forest land capable of producing 20 cubic feet of wood fiber an acre a year.

²"MBF" stands for thousand board feet of growing stock.

³Harvested annually on a sustained yield basis in accordance with multiple-use requirements.

Additionally, some forested areas should be restricted from timber harvesting. Other areas will need special practices such as partial cutting, cull yarding or protection zones. As forest management, wildlife, watershed and recreation objectives are identified through planning, all forested lands will be maintained and managed under the principles of sustained yield, multiple use and environmental protection.

Increased emphasis has been placed on sales in order to improve stand conditions and to meet local and national demands for increased wood production. The greatest increase has been in sales of minor forest products and sales to facilitate other resource uses.

Last year 3.4 million board feet of timber was offered in 237 total sales. Approximately 2.5 million board feet of timber was sold. Where feasible, forestry personnel have attempted to tie small marginal timber sales on national resource land in with USFS offerings to form a more attractive harvest package.

Productive forest land has been classified by the BLM in accordance with multiple use principles. This classification, although preliminary in nature, does reflect the increasing demands being placed on these lands for non-timber values and uses.

Table 28
RESTRICTIONS OF FOREST LANDS

Type of Restriction	Partial Restriction (Acres)	Total Restriction (Acres)
Wildlife	65,878	8,542
Streamside	1,717	5,525
Watershed	11,477	538
Scenic	5,828	529
Recreation	5,306	1,681
Topographic	2,238	14,423
Research, Natural	—	8,186
Other	4,829	4,687
Total Partial	97,273	44,111
Total Restrictions	44,111	
Non Restricted	68,164	
Total Forest	209,548	

Soil and Water Resource Management

Management of watersheds is essentially the management of land for the conservation and production of renewable natural resources. It is concerned with relationships between the management of soil, vegetation and the quality, quantity and timing of water production from watersheds as they affect both on-site and downstream use. Management involves prescribing some kind of land use, non-use or modification of vegetation cover.

The Bureau's overall watershed management objective is to enhance water quality, improve streamflow timing and water yield, renew ground water recharge and control floods and sedimentation. The Bureau also provides for and maintains a uniform system for soils inventory and develops practical soils interpretations. The Bureau's soil scientists, hydrologists and watershed specialists interpret and utilize basic watershed management principles and provide technical support in understanding the use of soils and water resource data. These are the variables of the watershed system which are influenced by land use. They enhance both on and off site resource values and assist in the planning and development of multiple resource management decisions for all Bureau programs.

Many land management practices designed to affect watersheds can be placed in two general categories: (1) the protection and rehabilitation of soil and plant resources; and (2) the management of watershed resources to modify the quantity, quality, and timing of water production.

The watershed program from the late 1950's through the mid-1960's was primarily oriented to structural water control practices with a minimum of watershed management. Many large water detentions, diversions, and dike systems were designed and constructed. Emphasis changed in the mid-1960's and the water control concept gave way to management of the watershed. Funding was diverted from large structures to range improvement projects in order to facilitate the establishment of grazing systems and permit better watershed management.

With the new direction of the watershed program, both soils and water management must be considered as well as maintenance of the existing watershed management facilities.

Recreation

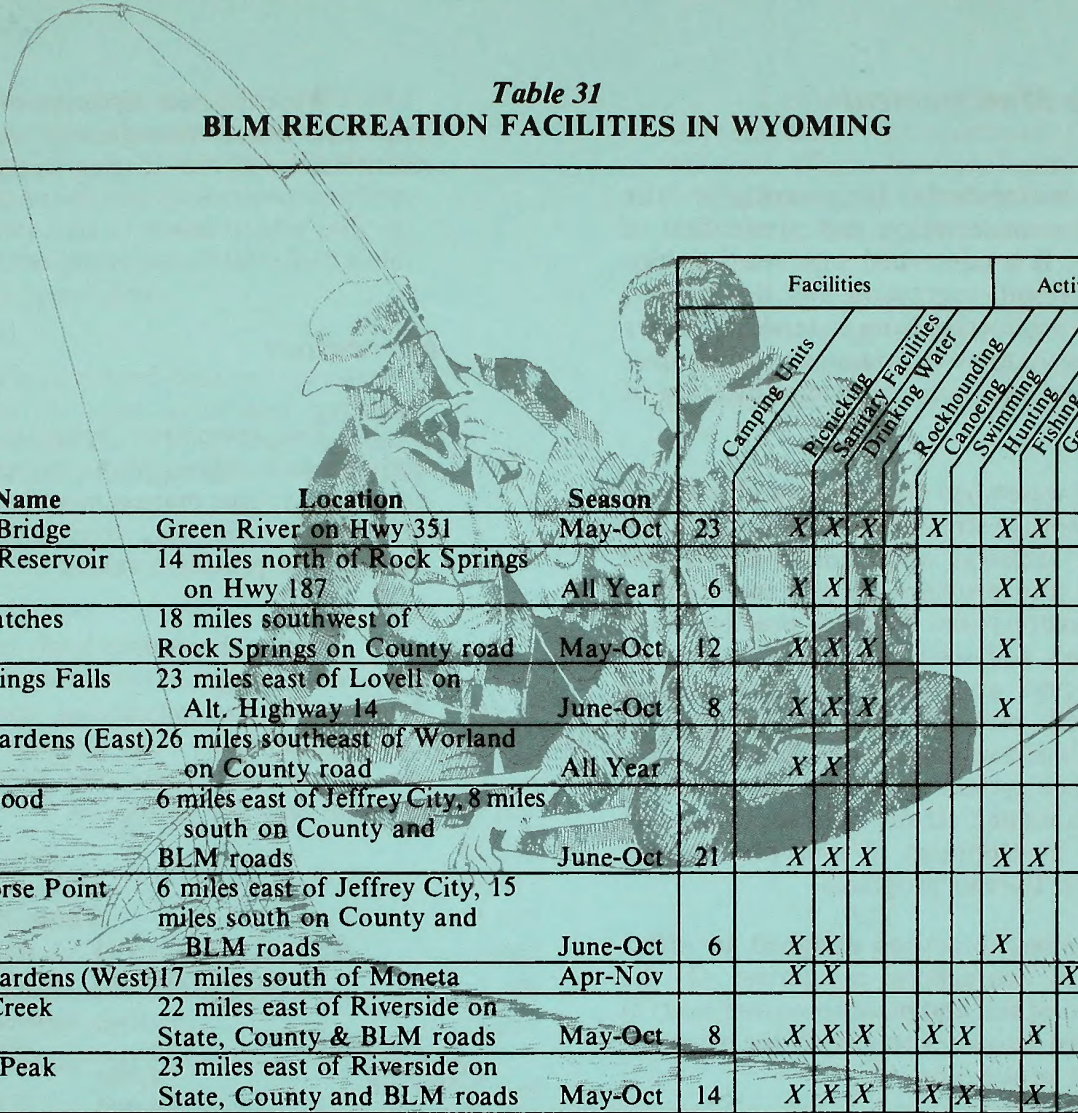
The recreation program embraces a multiplicity of activities and values. Major elements in addition to visitor and cultural resource management include activities associated with off-road vehicle use, river management, and protection of natural and primitive values.

National resource lands in Wyoming have the potential for a wide range of recreational uses. These include hunting, fishing, camping, picnicking, rockhounding, sightseeing, river floating, and many other outdoor activities. *Tables 29 and 31 list the recreational visits and facilities on BLM administered national resource lands.*

Table 29
ESTIMATED ANNUAL RECREATION VISITS
TO NATIONAL RESOURCE LANDS

Type of Use	Developed Sites	Undeveloped Sites	Other Areas	Total Visits
Camping	4,100	3,200	17,000	24,300
Fishing	16,000	2,600	137,000	155,600
Hunting	—	—	230,000	230,000
Picnicking	43,000	4,500	49,000	96,500
Sightseeing	3,500	3,700	2,042,000	2,049,200
Water Sports	—	—	37,000	37,000
Winter Sports	—	—	58,000	58,000
Other Uses	—	—	315,000	315,000
Total Visits	66,600	14,000	2,885,000	2,965,000

Table 31
BLM RECREATION FACILITIES IN WYOMING



Map No.	Name	Location	Season		Facilities					Activities				
					Camping Units	Picnicking	Sanitary Facilities	Drinking Water	Rockhounding	Canoeing	Swimming	Hunting	Fishing	Geological
1	Warren Bridge	Green River on Hwy 351	May-Oct	23	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
2	14-Mile Reservoir	14 miles north of Rock Springs on Hwy 187	All Year	6	X	X	X			X	X			
3	Three Patches	18 miles southwest of Rock Springs on County road	May-Oct	12	X	X	X			X				
4	Five Springs Falls	23 miles east of Lovell on Alt. Highway 14	June-Oct	8	X	X	X			X				
5	Castle Gardens (East)	26 miles southeast of Worland on County road	All Year		X	X								X
6	Cottonwood	6 miles east of Jeffrey City, 8 miles south on County and BLM roads	June-Oct	21	X	X	X			X	X			
7	Wild Horse Point	6 miles east of Jeffrey City, 15 miles south on County and BLM roads	June-Oct	6	X	X				X				
8	Castle Gardens (West)	17 miles south of Moneta	Apr-Nov		X	X						X	X	
9	Corral Creek	22 miles east of Riverside on State, County & BLM roads	May-Oct	8	X	X	X	X	X		X			
10	Bennett Peak	23 miles east of Riverside on State, County and BLM roads	May-Oct	14	X	X	X	X	X	X				
11	Rim	17 miles south of Casper on County and BLM roads	June-Oct	8	X	X				X				
12	Atlantic City	South Pass Historic Mining Area	May-Oct	22	X	X	X			X	X			X
13	Big Atlantic Gulch	South Pass Historic Mining Area	May-Oct	10	X	X	X			X	X			X

The varied landscape of the state includes forested mountains, deserts, rolling foothills, grasslands, rivers and lakes. Wyoming's unique geological formations includes sand dunes, badlands, granitic domes, deeply eroded canyons, buttes, caves and meandering rivers.

The use of off-road vehicles has become a popular recreational activity. Organized groups gather for general or competitive recreation under special use permits issued by the Bureau. Snowmobiles, motorcycles and four-wheel drives are the most popular recreational vehicles and are often used for business purposes as well. Such land uses have required closer control of off-road vehicles to minimize surface destruction. Land values sensitive to such off-road vehicle use (e.g., wildlife breeding and nesting areas, fragile soil areas) are now being evaluated.

River management activities include studies done in cooperation with the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation concerning potential wild and scenic rivers flowing through national resource lands. Permits are issued to commercial operators for floating on both designated and non-designated wild and scenic rivers fronting on national resource lands.

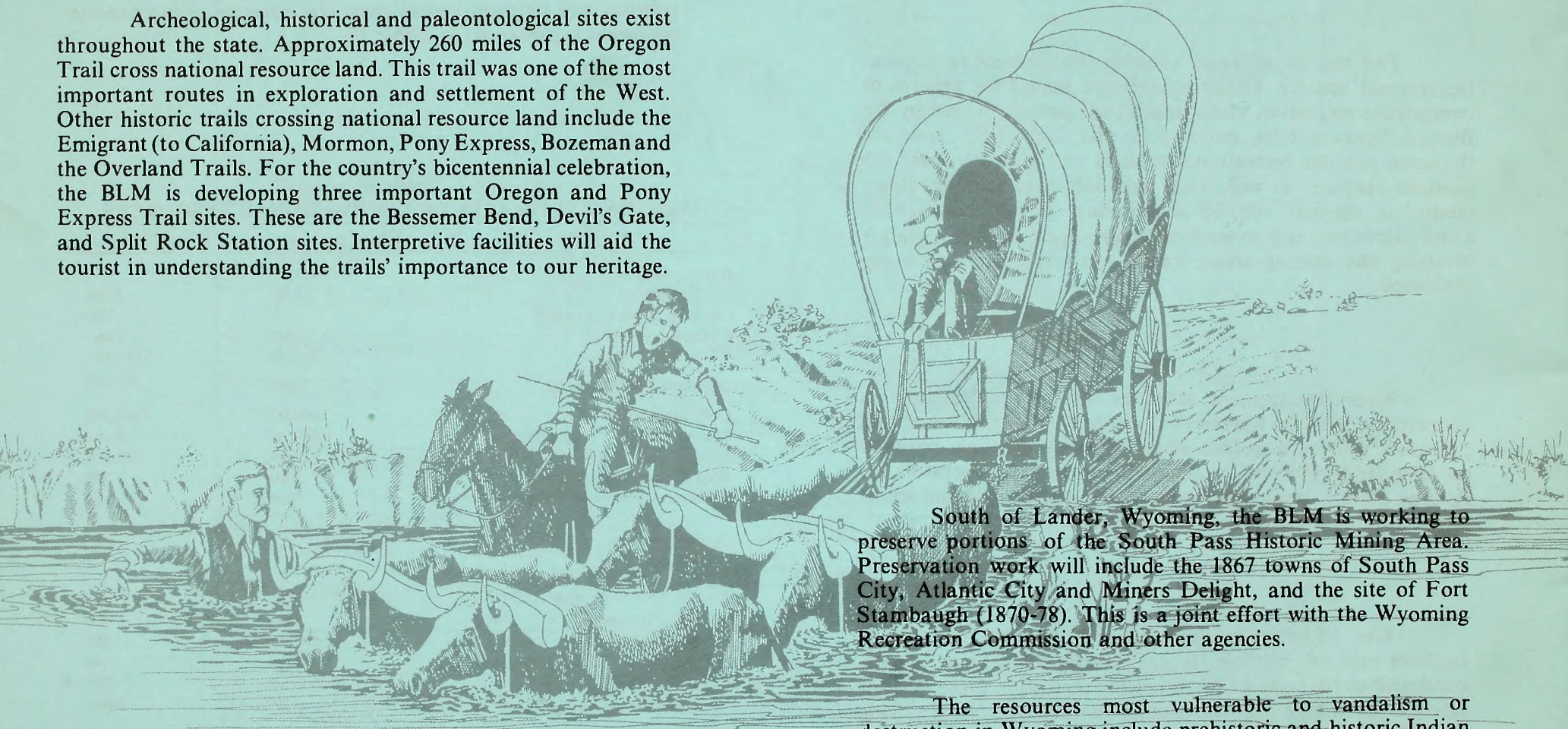
The BLM's recreation program strives to provide facilities and information. It additionally seeks to assure the continued availability of resources for recreational use. Visitor safety is given high priority through eliminating or neutralizing hazards.

Several relatively undisturbed areas have been identified for possible preservation in their natural state. Over 17 geographic areas representing potential management rivers, special recreation lands, historic trails and primitive areas have been identified through these inventories. Numerous opportunities have been identified that represent high use areas, access, cultural and paleontological sites. *An estimate of recreational resources is presented in Table 30.*

Table 30
WYOMING ESTIMATES OF RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Activity	Existing	Potential
Hunting (acres)	17,487,000	
Fishing (miles)	1,362	3,000
Camping/Picnicking (units)	133	500+
Water Sports (acres)	56,870	Same
Winter Sports (acres)	500,000	1,000,000
Off-Road Vehicles (acres)	10,000	500,000
Collecting (acres)	2,000,000	4,000,000
Scenery (acres)	5,000,000	Same
Special areas (acres)	640	500,000
Wild & Scenic Rivers (miles)	None	200
Whitewater Floatboat Rivers	None	20
Trails (miles)		
Hiking	None	
	200	
Off-road vehicles	None	200
Snowmobile	20	250
Bicycle	None	50
Equestrian	None	200
Historic	600	Same
Primitive Areas (acres)	6,700	1,400,000
Cultural Recreation Areas (acres)	None	2,000

Archeological, historical and paleontological sites exist throughout the state. Approximately 260 miles of the Oregon Trail cross national resource land. This trail was one of the most important routes in exploration and settlement of the West. Other historic trails crossing national resource land include the Emigrant (to California), Mormon, Pony Express, Bozeman and the Overland Trails. For the country's bicentennial celebration, the BLM is developing three important Oregon and Pony Express Trail sites. These are the Bessemer Bend, Devil's Gate, and Split Rock Station sites. Interpretive facilities will aid the tourist in understanding the trails' importance to our heritage.



South of Lander, Wyoming, the BLM is working to preserve portions of the South Pass Historic Mining Area. Preservation work will include the 1867 towns of South Pass City, Atlantic City and Miners Delight, and the site of Fort Stambaugh (1870-78). This is a joint effort with the Wyoming Recreation Commission and other agencies.

The resources most vulnerable to vandalism or destruction in Wyoming include prehistoric and historic Indian sites, and historical anglo sites. The latter includes trails, stations, forts, settlements and other cultural features associated with them. Many caves containing archeological and paleontological deposits, vertebrate paleontological deposits, and pictograph-petroglyph panels also require protection.

Wildlife

The BLM administered national resource lands and waters provide important habitat to a wide variety of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife. There are approximately 2,000-3,000 miles of perennial streams and 1,689 lakes and reservoirs (27,448 acres) with wildlife and/or fisheries significance on national resource lands. Wyoming ranks as the number one state in production of antelope and sage grouse. Other big game such as mule deer, elk, moose, and bighorn sheep (largest bighorn sheep herd) are important and near the top in numbers among the 48 contiguous states. Threatened and endangered wildlife species that are probably inhabitants of public lands include: the peregrine falcon; black-footed ferret; northern Rocky Mountain wolf; grizzly bear; southern bald eagle; and Kendall Warm Springs dace. Wyoming has excellent fishing and some of the more noted fishing areas are on national resource lands.

Various other uses of wildlife are growing. In 1975, an estimated 689,400 visitor days were devoted to non-consumptive recreation uses on the national resource land while an estimated 281,844 visitor days were expended on consumptive uses such as hunting and fishing.

Energy development and related growth in Wyoming will put stress on wildlife and fisheries habitat. It is estimated that wildlife use is increasing at 10-25 percent a year. Hunting demands for some species (moose, mule deer, and elk) are unmet. Several states adjacent to Wyoming are restricting sales of out-of-state licenses and pressure from out-of-state hunters is thereby increasing for Wyoming.

Wyoming is noted for its excellent trout fishing. Although most fishing streams are not solely on the national resource lands, some of the best are shared by several owners, including the public. Colorado River and Bear River cutthroat trout habitat are two of our most significant fisheries habitats. This significance is based on the rarity and the national interest in maintaining habitat for threatened or endangered wildlife. Other important fishery habitat is utilized by Yellowstone River cutthroat trout, Snake River cutthroat trout, brook trout, rainbow trout, brown trout, grayling and mountain whitefish. In addition, species such as catfish, black bass, walleye, and the pan fishes can be taken from the national resource land. It is estimated that 61,578 "fishermen days" were provided on the national resource land in 1975. *Table 32 lists the most recent data available (1974) for fisheries habitat by district while Table 33 reflects estimated big game populations on national resource lands.* The Wyoming Game and Fish Department and BLM are working cooperatively to provide more public access to Wyoming's fishing streams.

Table 32
FISHERIES HABITAT BY DISTRICT

District	Stream Miles	Pond, Lake Reservoir Surface Acres
Worland	302	10,100
Rawlins	418	3,970
Rock Springs	632	11,388
Casper	168	2,000
TOTAL	1,520	27,458

Table 33
ESTIMATED BIG GAME POPULATIONS
USING NATIONAL RESOURCE LANDS

District	Antelope	Black Bear	Deer	Elk	Moose	Bighorn Sheep
<i>Worland</i>	6,100	120	30,000	7,915	25	100
<i>Rawlins</i>	45,000	50	40,000	8,000	150	1,000
<i>Rock Springs</i>	12,400	160	19,100	8,900	1,190	—
<i>Casper</i>	33,569	20	43,500	2,320	—	120
TOTAL	97,069	350	132,600	27,135	1,365	1,220

With such large wildlife populations and steadily mounting demand for hunting, fishing, and non-consumptive uses, wildlife habitat on the national resource land and its proper management are increasingly important. Further inventory of wildlife habitat is necessary. Previous inventories, limited by other demands on funds and time, have been devoted mainly to the environmental needs of game-animals, birds of prey and endangered or threatened species.

However, habitat inventory work is now increasing with an emphasis on non-game "terrestrial" and aquatic species.

Upland game birds and waterfowl are also significant users of Wyoming national resource lands. Habitat improvements are attainable through reservoir construction, reservoir fencing, nest construction and grazing management systems. Habitat management plans will continue to receive the necessary attention in the wildlife program.

Approximately two million acres of critical habitat for sage grouse and other upland bird species and 83,000 acres of critical habitat for waterfowl can be found on national resource lands in Wyoming. Ten habitat management plans are being implemented within these critical habitat areas to further enhance the needs of the upland birds and waterfowl species.

Biologists work with BLM scientists as well as representatives of other federal and state agencies, to assure that the needs of wildlife are considered in other public land management decisions and to conduct cooperative habitat evaluation studies. Through sound field investigation and planning, biologists are working to improve and enhance wildlife habitats with fence modifications, springs, pond and reservoir protection, well water development, protection of nesting and perching areas for birds of prey and habitat rehabilitation to increase food and cover for wildlife.

Wildlife and fisheries management on national resource land is a joint effort between BLM and Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Responsibilities have been delineated with Wyoming Game and Fish Department by a memorandum of understanding. The BLM is responsible for the habitat and Wyoming Game and Fish Department is responsible for the wildlife and fish populations.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

The Division of Technical Services furnishes support to all of the resource programs previously described. The support includes cadastral survey, fire protection, access acquisition, photo interpretation, cartography, appraisal, communications, and engineering.

Cadastral Survey

Cadastral survey identifies and records the legal description of the public lands. It creates original boundary lines (in the standard township-range-sectional system), recovers those which have been lost, and prepares survey plats for a permanent record of land status. Survey authority extends to all national resource land as well as to other federally-controlled and intermingled land.

Original surveys were completed on about half of Wyoming by 1910. Many of the original wood and stone corner markers—some dating back to the 1870s—have been lost however. Some too, were never established in the first place, through excessive haste or outright fraud on the part of contract surveyors.

The current state of the cadastral survey program in Wyoming is as follows: some 16 million acres are acceptably surveyed, usually with steel corner markers; slightly more than 11 million acres remain to be resurveyed; and about 3 million acres, mostly in national parks and forests, need not be surveyed because interior subdivision is not necessary. (*Refer to Table 34.*)

Table 34
**CADASTRAL SURVEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS¹
ON FEDERAL LANDS**

	Miles of Original Survey or Resurvey	Number of Monuments
Accomplished FY 1974	429	729
Acceptable surveys accomplished to date	165,009	343,061
Balance remaining to be done	199,581	406,061

¹No accurate count of miles or monuments is available for surveys before 1968. Estimates are based on recent mile and monument-to-acre relationship.

²Count based on an analytical study in 1968.

³Mile and monument figures have been used in recent years as units for measuring work-load and accomplishment. Areas are much less descriptive of actual accomplishment. For example, 640 acres would be reported whether only the exterior boundaries of a section were surveyed or the section were subdivided into 40 acre tracts.

Fire Protection

The BLM provides fire protection for the national resource lands with its own crews and equipment as well as through contract with other public agencies. Through an agreement with the State Board of Land Commissioners, the Bureau will also take action on fires on State lands on a reimbursable basis. The Bureau is developing agreements with the county fire departments outlining areas of responsibility and methods of reimbursement for fire suppression on private lands.

During the last three years an average of 87 fires a year have been reported on national resource lands in Wyoming with an average of 3221 acres burned. Approximately 30 percent of the fires are man-caused and 70 percent are caused by lightning.

BLM-Wyoming has increased its program to acquire legal access over mainline roads that service national resource lands. A majority of these roads were developed over the years by user groups. Legal access will allow the Bureau to maintain the roads and upgrade standards when needed. Legal access is acquired for those roads not included in the state, county, and other federal agencies' road systems. In 1975, twenty easements were acquired. The Bureau proposes to acquire in the next 10 years approximately 400 easements with an estimated value exceeding \$450,000. (See Tables 35 and 36.)

Table 35
BLM ROAD SYSTEM¹

District	Miles of Road on BLM Lands	Total Miles of Road in Transportation Plan	Miles Maintained FY 1974
Worland	1,134	1,409	203
Rawlins	1,949	2,613	411
Rock Springs	1,142	1,225	213
Casper	675	1,209	10
TOTAL	4,900	6,456	837

¹Includes some primary, secondary and county roads because BLM is required to tie into federal or state road systems.

Table 36
**PRIMARY ROADS IN TRANSPORTATION PLAN
REQUIRING EASEMENTS AS OF JANUARY 1, 1976**

District	No.	Roads Requiring Easements ¹			Easements Required		Easements Acquired	
		Total Miles	BLM Miles	Private Miles	Number	Miles	Number	Miles
Worland	46	700	548	152	100	118	38	34
Rawlins	54	963	593	370	149	332	45	38
Rock Springs	67	936	639	297	149	285	22	12
Casper	18	186	87	99	31	95	10	4
TOTAL	185	2785	1867	918	429	830	115	88

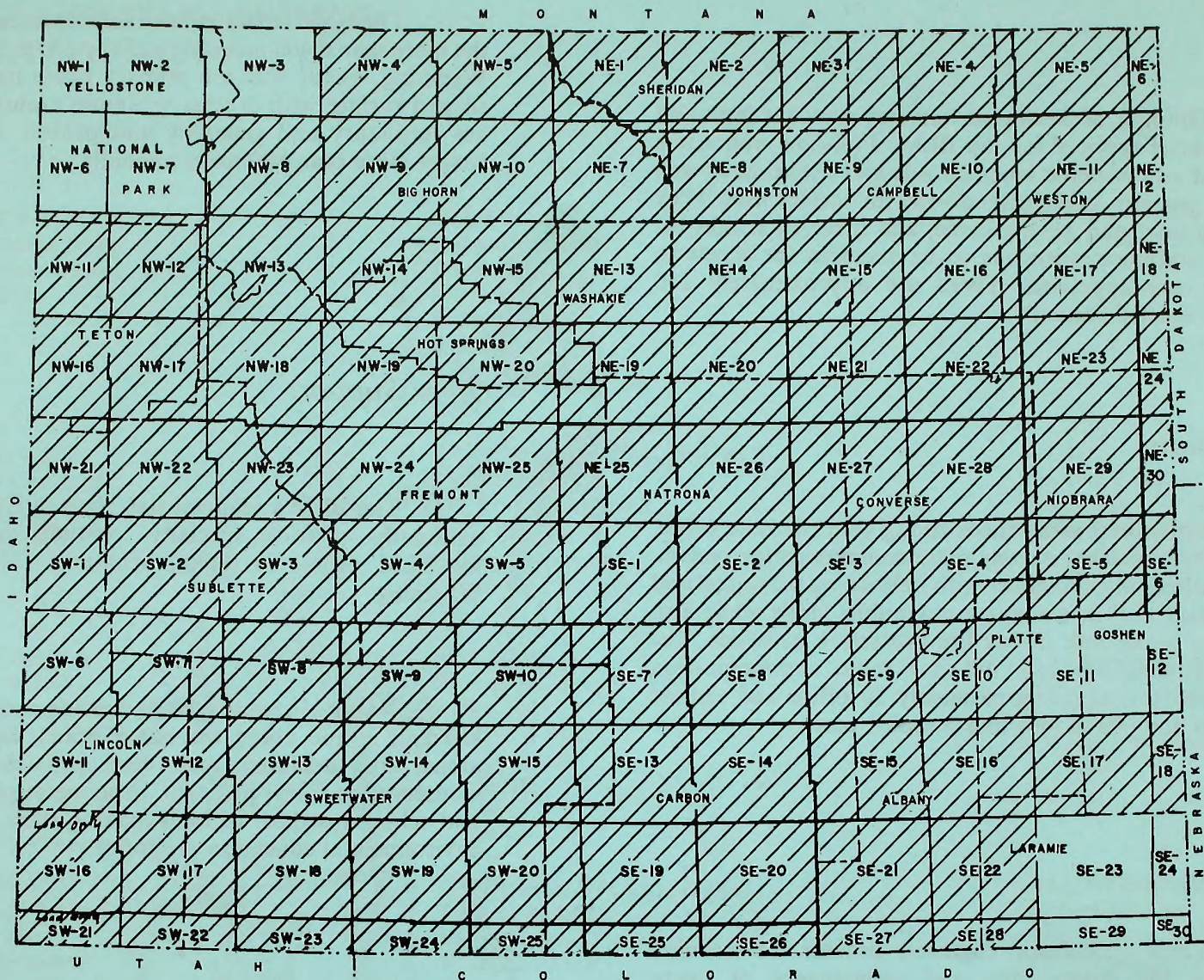
¹Roads in the transportation plan which require right-of-way easements over some part of their length: number and miles.

²Approximate.

In 1974, the Bureau initiated an intensive program for the acquisition of resource aerial photography for the BLM interest areas in Wyoming. To date, we have acquired, through contract, color infrared photography over 46,790 square miles. Once the contract is completed in 1976, the total coverage will be 72,190 square miles. The photography was flown at a scale of two inches per mile, false color infrared, and during "peak of green" season. The photography provides the BLM resource specialist with an up-to-date tool to identify, analyze, and map vegetation, water, soils, geology, and man's cultural activities. The photography will be available for purchase by the public once the final contract is completed in early fall of 1976.

Cartography

The Bureau develops maps to assist in managing the national resource lands. Three basic series maps available to the public are the land status map at a scale of 1:500,000 (one inch equals 8 miles), the color quad series at a scale of one-half inch equals one mile (*see map, page 33*), and the public lands guide map at a scale of one-fourth inch equals one mile. The land status map and color quad map are sold to the public. The public lands guide map is distributed at no charge. The color quad series shows surface status with an overlay reflecting mineral ownership. All of the map series are revised periodically and reprinted. Information on maps may be obtained by contacting any of the district or area offices or by contacting the Information Specialist at the State Office in Cheyenne.



Shaded areas denote maps available
for sale as of May 1, 1976.

Remainder of areas will be published
by October 1, 1976

Five quads, NW-1, NW-2, NW-3, NW-6
and NW-7 will not be published.

Index
To
Color Quad. Maps
Wyoming

Surface Ownership and
Mineral Ownership

Appraisal

The Division of Technical Services provides land and mineral appraisal services for the BLM. Full-time appraisers evaluate BLM administered lands for sale and exchange as well as for leases, permits, and rights-of-way for surface uses. They also appraise sand and gravel, stone, and other such saleable minerals. In addition, easements to be acquired for access to public lands are appraised. There are approximately 250 appraisals completed annually.

Communications

All district and area offices, along with the state office, are serviced by a remote two-way radio communication system. The system allows direct contact with field-going personnel and is an important tool in managing our public lands while also providing the initial link in our fire protection activities. The BLM in Wyoming has two full-time radio communication specialists who maintain approximately 50 office and remote fixed stations and 200 mobile and portable units.

Engineering

Civil and agricultural engineers provide the technical expertise for the construction and maintenance of roads, campgrounds, buildings, water control structures, and range improvements. Funding for roads and campgrounds has been limited and normally allows for no more than one or two such projects annually. The construction of water control and range improvement projects normally consist of drop structures, small dams, springs, pipelines, fences, and wells.

The largest maintenance activity is road maintenance. Of the more than 6,400 miles of roadway under BLM jurisdiction in Wyoming, about half are primary roads having some type of shaped surface with at least minimum drainage. The remainder are secondary and generally unimproved. Maintenance work covers more than 800 miles annually.

Other Support

The BLM's regional sign shop in Rawlins—one of two nationally—provides specialty, location, and directional signs for BLM offices in Idaho, Montana, Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming.

National resource lands provide many opportunities for learning in and about the out-of-doors. Environmental study areas are identified and developed through the Youth Conservation Corps program. In cooperation with state agencies and school districts, BLM is making these areas available for environmental education programs.

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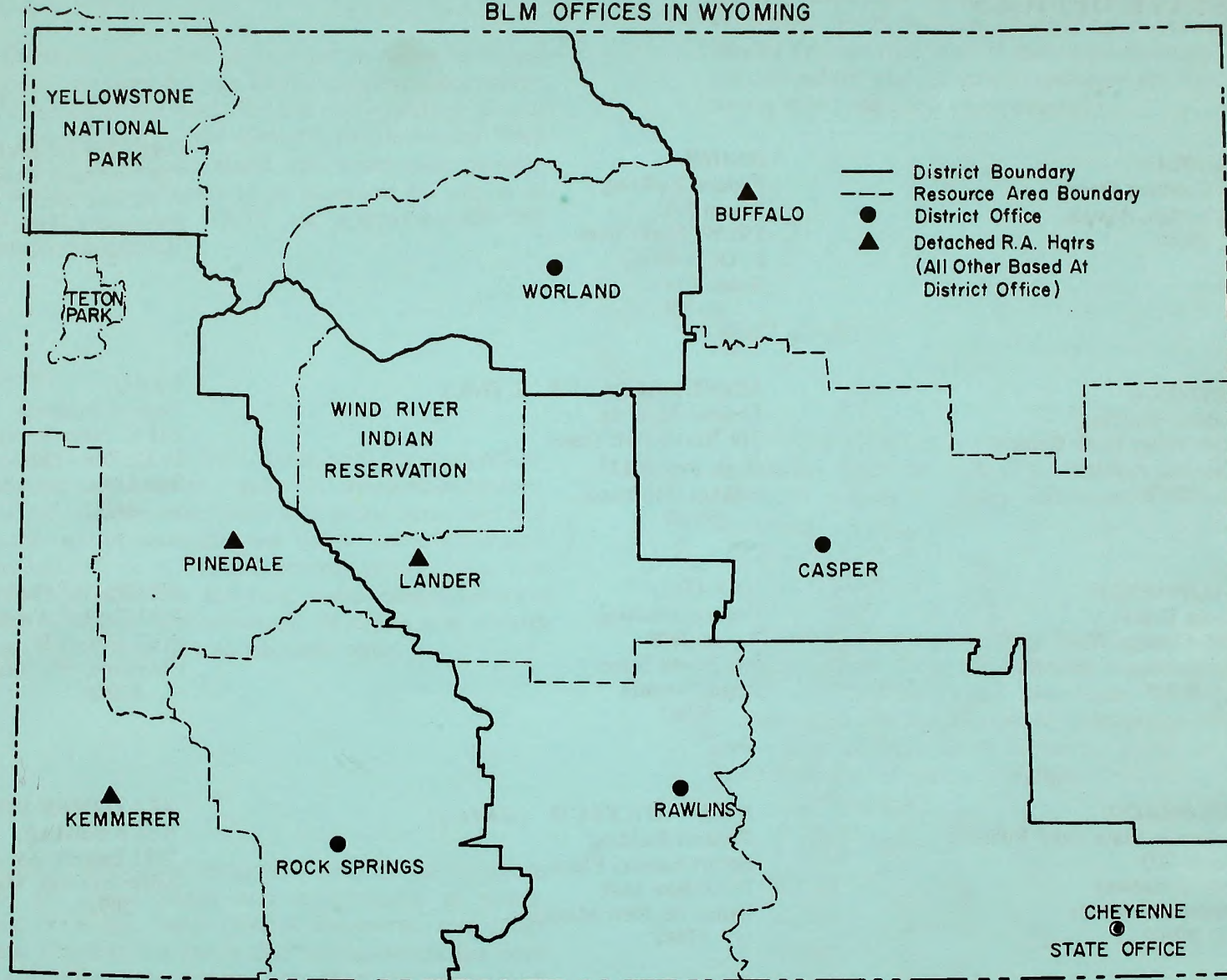
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TABLES

1—Public Land Administered by Federal Agencies	1
2—Lands Administered by BLM in Wyoming	2
3—Selected Statistics for Kansas and Nebraska	2
4—BLM Receipts by Source (\$)	4
5—Allocation of BLM Receipts to State of Wyoming (\$)	5
Chart 1—BLM Receipts	4
Chart 2—Allocation of BLM Receipts to Wyoming (%)	5
Figure 1—BLM Receipt Distribution and Allocation	5
6—Fiscal Year Operating Budget	6
7—Permanent BLM Employees	6
8—BLM Employees by General Program Type	7
9—Actions Requiring Environmental Assessment	11
10—Land Leases in Force FY 1975	12
11—Special Land Use Permits FY 1975	12
12—Land Patents Issued	13
13—Lands Casework	13
14—Lands Classified	14
15—Leaseable Mineral Production	15
16—Mineral Leases in Effect	16
17—Issued Oil and Gas Leases	16
18—Oil and Gas Applications and Abandonments	16
19—Estimated Grazing Inside Grazing Districts	19
20—Estimated Grazing Outside Grazing Districts	19
21—Operators and Livestock	20
22—Schedule for Environmental Impact Statements	21
23—Allotment Management Plans	21
24—Wild Horse Inventory	22
25—Range Improvements	22
26—Timber Products and Vegetative Disposals	23
27—Estimated Area and Producing Capacity of Forest	23
28—Restrictions of Forest Lands	24
29—Estimated Recreation Visits	26
30—Estimated Recreational Resources	27
31—Recreation Facilities	28
32—Fisheries Habitat by District	29
33—Estimated Big Game Populations on NRL	30
34—Cadastral Survey Accomplishments	31
35—BLM Road System	32
36—Primary Roads Requiring Easements	32
Map Index to Color Quad Maps	33
Map of Districts and Resource Areas	36
BLM State Offices	37

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